

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image-recording, hydrophilic colorant represented by the following formula (1):

(organic pigment)-(linking group)-(hydrophilic compound) (1)

wherein

the organic pigment is a hydrophobic pigment selected from the group consisting of perinone, dioxazine, quinacridone, diketopyrrolopyrole, quinophthalone, isoindolinone, and metal complex;

the linking group is selected from the group consisting of an alkylene group, s-triazinyl group, s-triazinyl-2,4-diamino group, s-triazinyl-2,4-dioxy group, s-triazinyl-2-amino-4-oxy group, s-triazinyl-2,4-diaminoalkyl group, and s-triazinyl-2-aminoalkyl-4-oxy group; and

the hydrophilic compound comprises one or more carboxyl groups, sulfone groups, sulfate ester groups, phosphate ester groups, primary amino groups, primary quaternary ammonium groups, secondary amino groups, secondary quaternary ammonium groups, tertiary amino groups, tertiary quaternary ammonium groups; alcoholic hydroxyl groups, polyethylene glycol groups, polyethylene glycol monoalkyl ether groups; polyethylene glycol, monophthalate, polyethylene glycol monosulfate or polyethylene glycol monophosphate

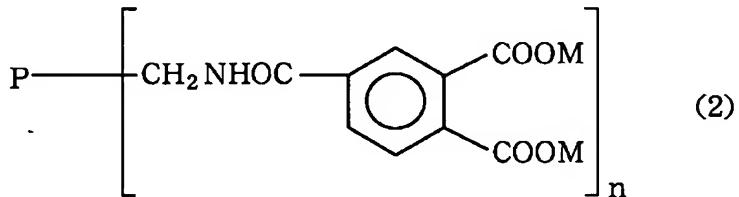
[organic pigment] [linking group] [hydrophilic compound] (1)

wherein said [organic pigment] is a hydrophobic pigment having no hydrophilic group by itself, said [linking group] is a group linking said [organic pigment] and said [hydrophilic compound] with each other and blocking an effect of said [hydrophilic compound] on said

~~[organic pigment], and said [hydrophilic compound] is an anionic, cationic and/or nonionic, hydrophilic compound.~~

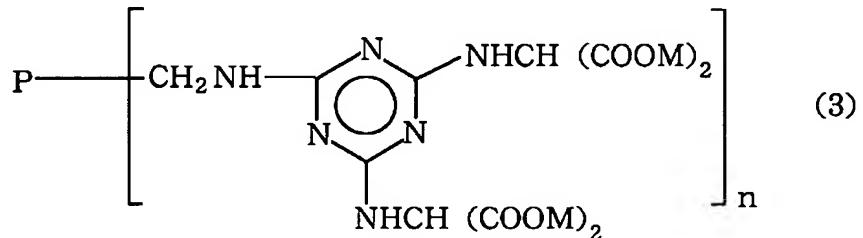
Claims 2-3 (Cancelled).

4. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A hydrophilic colorant according to claim 1, which is represented by the following formula (2):



wherein P represents an organic pigment molecule, M represents a hydrogen atom, alkali metal, ammonium group, (lower alkyl)ammonium group or (lower alkanol)ammonium group, and n stands for 1 to 4.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A hydrophilic colorant according to claim 1, which is represented by the following formula (3):



wherein P represents an organic pigment molecule, M represents a hydrogen atom, alkali metal, ammonium group, (lower alkyl)ammonium group or (lower alkanol)ammonium group, and n stands for 1 to 4.

6. (Original) An image-recording, water-based coloring composition comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 1 and an aqueous medium.

7. (Previously Presented) An image-recording method, comprising forming an image with a composition, which comprises the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 1.

8. (Original) An image-recorded medium obtained by the image-recording method according to claim 7.

9. (Original) An image-recording system comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 1 loaded as an image-recording material therein.

10. (Original) An image-recording system according to claim 9, which is an inkjet printer.

11. (Original) An image-recording method, comprising forming an image with a composition, which comprises the water-based coloring composition according to claim 6.

12. (Original) An image-recorded medium obtained by the image-recording method according to claim 11.

13. (Original) An image-recording system comprising the water-based coloring composition according to claim 6, loaded as an image-recording material therein.

14. (Original) An image-recording system according to claim 13, which is an inkjet printer.

15. (New) An image-recording, water-based coloring composition comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 4 and an aqueous medium.

16. (New) An image-recording method, comprising forming an image with a composition, which comprises the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 4.

17. (New) An image-recorded medium obtained by the image-recording method according to claim 16.

18. (New) An image-recording system comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 4 loaded as an image-recording material therein.

19. (New) An image-recording, water-based coloring composition comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 5 and an aqueous medium.

20. (New) An image-recording method, comprising forming an image with a composition, which comprises the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 5.

21. (New) An image-recorded medium obtained by the image-recording method according to claim 20.

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22. (New) An image-recording system comprising the hydrophilic colorant according to claim 5 loaded as an image-recording material therein.